

**WHAT WE CLAIM IS :**

1. A method of delegating signing of predetermined data by a given one of M first members mandated by N second members, M and N being integers of which one is equal to 1 and the other is at least equal to 2, the given first member having a terminal containing first information on said given first member, said method comprising the following steps:

- reading first information on said M first members and second information on said N second members in delegation means from said terminal responsive to a first identifier of said given first member included in said first information and transmitted by said terminal to said delegation means,

- applying predetermined data, said first information, said second information, and a first private key of said given first member to a cryptographic algorithm implemented in said terminal to produce a signature, and

- transmitting said predetermined data, said first information, said second information, and said signature to any user terminal interested in said predetermined data.

2. The method claimed in claim 1, wherein said second information on a second member comprises at least an identifier of said second member.

3. The method claimed in claim 1 wherein said second information on a second member further comprises a public key of said second member.

4. The method claimed in claim 1 wherein said second information on a second member further comprises an electronic certificate of said second member.

5. The method claimed in claim 1 wherein said first information on a first member comprises an electronic certificate of said first member.

6. The method claimed in claim 1 wherein said integer M is equal to 1 and said integer N is at least equal to 2.

7. The method claimed in claim 1 wherein said integer N is equal to 1 and said integer M is at least equal to 2.

8. The method claimed in claim 1 wherein said M first members and said N second members constitute a group of members.

9. The method claimed in claim 1 comprising loading predetermined data and a signature program including at least part of said cryptographic algorithm from at least one server connected to said terminal of said given first member before

verification of said predetermined data by said  
given first member.